

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, and 25 have been amended in several particulars. Claims 4, 11, 18, and 25 have been amended to clarify the relationship between these claims and the claims from which they depend. Claims 29 and 30 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner objected to the title as being insufficiently descriptive. Although the applicants believe that the title is sufficiently descriptive, the applicants have amended the title to overcome the objection. If the Examiner maintains this objection, the Examiner should explain why the title is insufficiently descriptive so as to allow the applicants to address the Examiner's concerns.

Claims 1-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Park et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,289,414. However, the applicants note that the reference is listed in the Form PTO-892 as 7,289,404, and it this listing that appears to be correct. Accordingly, the applicants have responded to the rejection based on the Park reference as cited in the Form PTO-892. The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Park discloses a method of managing defects (abstract). According to this method, a data area is divided into spare areas and user data areas (FIG. 4). The spare area is further divided into a temporary defect management area (TDMA) and a remaining area (FIG. 4). THE TDMA may have a variable size, up to one quarter the size of the spare area (col. 7, lines 17-22).

Park does not disclose all the limitations of claim 1. For example, Park does not disclose "extending the sub spare area toward a user data area of the data area ", as recited in claim 1 as amended. Park discloses that the TDMA can be variable, and thus can be interpreted as implying that the remaining area can have a variable size. However, even if the TDMA varies in size, the remaining area would in this case be extended toward the TDMA, not toward the user data area. The boundary between the spare area and the user data area remains unchanged. Accordingly, Park does not disclose all the limitations of claim 1, and the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1. The rejection of claims 2-7 should be withdrawn for at

least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1.

Claim 8 recites limitations similar to claim 1. The rejection of claim 8 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1. Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8; the rejection of claims 9-14 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 8.

Claim 15 recites limitations similar to claim 1. The rejection of claim 15 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1. Claims 16-21 depend from claim 15; the rejection of claims 16-21 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 15.

Claim 22 recites limitations similar to claim 1. The rejection of claim 22 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 1. Claims 23-28 depend from claim 22; the rejection of claims 23-28 should be withdrawn for at least the reasons given above with respect to claim 22.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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